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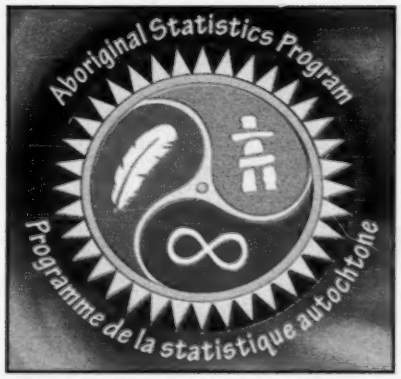
Aboriginal Peoples: Fact Sheets

Aboriginal peoples: Fact sheet for Quebec



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.. not available for a specific reference period
... not applicable
0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
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[p] preliminary
[r] revised
x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
[E] use with caution
F too unreliable to be published
* significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

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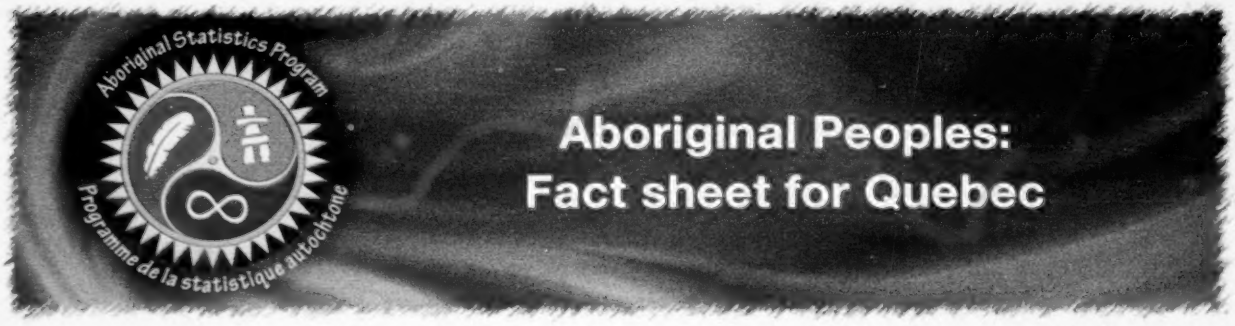


One in ten Aboriginal people in Canada live in Quebec

- Numbering 141,915,[1] 10% of the Aboriginal identity population in Canada lived in Quebec in 2011. They made up 2% of the total population of that province.

- Almost one in five Aboriginal people in Quebec resided in Montréal, although they represented less than 1% of the total population living there.

- Quebec was home to 82,425 First Nations people, 40,955 Métis, and 12,570 Inuit, with the rest reporting other[2] Aboriginal identities (4,415) or more than one Aboriginal identity (1,550). From 2006 to 2011, the First Nations population in Quebec increased by 26%, while the Métis population rose by 47%, and the Inuit population by 15%.[3]

- Of those who identified as First Nations people in 2011, almost two-thirds (64% or 52,650) reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada. Just under one-half (47% or 38,615) of all First Nations people (72% of First Nations people who were Treaty or Registered Indians, or 37,880 individuals) lived on a reserve.

Aboriginal population younger than non-Aboriginal

- Four in ten Aboriginal people in Quebec were under the age of 25, compared with 29% of the non-Aboriginal population. More than half of Inuit (57%) were in this age group, as were 42% of First Nations people (51% of those living on a reserve and 33% of the off-reserve population) and 33% of Métis.

- In 2011, the median age of First Nations people was 31.3; the off-reserve population was older (38.5) than those living on a reserve (24.1). Métis had a median age of 38.8; that of Inuit was 21.3. All three groups were younger than the non-Aboriginal population, whose median age was 41.3.

About the data sources

The 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) and the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) are the main data sources for this fact sheet. The 2011 NHS collected social and economic data about the Canadian population. The 2012 APS was a national survey of First Nations people **living off reserve**, Métis, and Inuit aged 6 and older. The data are for the **Aboriginal identity population**, which refers to people who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, that is, First Nations, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada, and/or those who reported they were members of an Indian band or First Nation. It was possible to report both single and multiple responses to the Aboriginal identity questions on the NHS and the APS. The NHS data in this fact sheet are based on single responses only. The APS data represent a combination of the single and multiple Aboriginal identity populations. Nearly all off-reserve First Nations, Métis, and Inuit respondents reported a single identity.

1. Some Indian reserves and settlements did not participate in the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) as enumeration was either not permitted, it was interrupted before completion, or because of natural events (e.g., forest fires).
2. This includes people who reported having Registered Indian status and/or being members of an Indian band or First Nation without reporting an Aboriginal identity.
3. A number of factors should be taken into account when comparing data on Aboriginal people over time. Please refer to the *Aboriginal Peoples Reference Guide, National Household Survey, 2011*, Catalogue no. 99-011-X2011006 and the *Aboriginal Peoples Technical Report*, Catalogue no. 99-011-X. Incompletely enumerated reserves are not included in the 2006 and 2011 data used to determine the change in the Aboriginal population.

Over half of Aboriginal children live with both parents

- In Quebec, 56% of First Nations and Inuit children aged 14 and younger lived in a family with both their parents in 2011, as did 60% of Métis children. The corresponding percentage for non-Aboriginal children was 73%. Three in ten First Nations children, 28% of Métis children and 32% of Inuit children lived in a lone-parent family, rates that were higher than that for their non-Aboriginal peers (19%).

- In 2011, 3% of Aboriginal children aged 14 and younger were in foster care; at 4%, the percentage was highest for First Nations children living off reserve and Inuit children. Moreover, of all Quebec children in foster care in 2011, 15% were Aboriginal children, the majority of whom (67%) were First Nations children.

Table 1
Percentage distribution of children aged 14 and under by living arrangement, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Quebec, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity			Métis single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
		Total	On reserve	Off reserve			
	percent						
Children of both parents[1]	56.9	56.1	56.0	56.4	59.6	55.5	72.9
Stepchildren	8.8	8.6	7.8	10.0	11.3	4.9	7.8
Children of lone parent	29.7	30.0	31.0	28.4	27.8	31.6	18.6
Grandchildren in skip-generation family	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.1	0.0	2.0	0.2
Foster children	2.7	2.9	2.4	3.8	1.3	4.4	0.4
Children living with other relatives[2]	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.4	0.0	1.5	0.1

1. Includes children in a two-parent family where there may also be stepsiblings or half-siblings present. Also includes children in a two-parent family for whom it cannot be determined if they are stepchildren.
2. Non-relatives may be present. Excludes foster children.
Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

On-reserve First Nations people and Inuit most likely to live in crowded homes and homes requiring major repairs

- In Quebec in 2011, 26% of on-reserve First Nations people and 42% of Inuit lived in crowded homes, that is, with more than one person per room. Among Métis and off-reserve First Nations people, the percentage was 2%. The comparable figure for the non-Aboriginal population was 3%.

- About one-third of First Nations people living on reserve (34%) and Inuit (36%) lived in homes in need of major repairs, rates that were much higher than that for off-reserve First Nations people (12%) and Métis (14%). The corresponding figure for the non-Aboriginal population was 7%.

Table 2
Percentages living in crowded homes and homes in need of major repairs, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Quebec, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity			Métis single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
		Total	On reserve	Off reserve			
	percent						
Crowding[1]	12.3	13.3	25.7	2.4	2.4	42.2	2.8
Home in need of major[2] repairs	20.5	22.0	33.8	11.5	14.1	36.0	7.1

1. More than one person per room.
2. For example, dwellings with defective plumbing or electrical wiring and dwellings needing structural repairs to walls, floors or ceilings.
Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

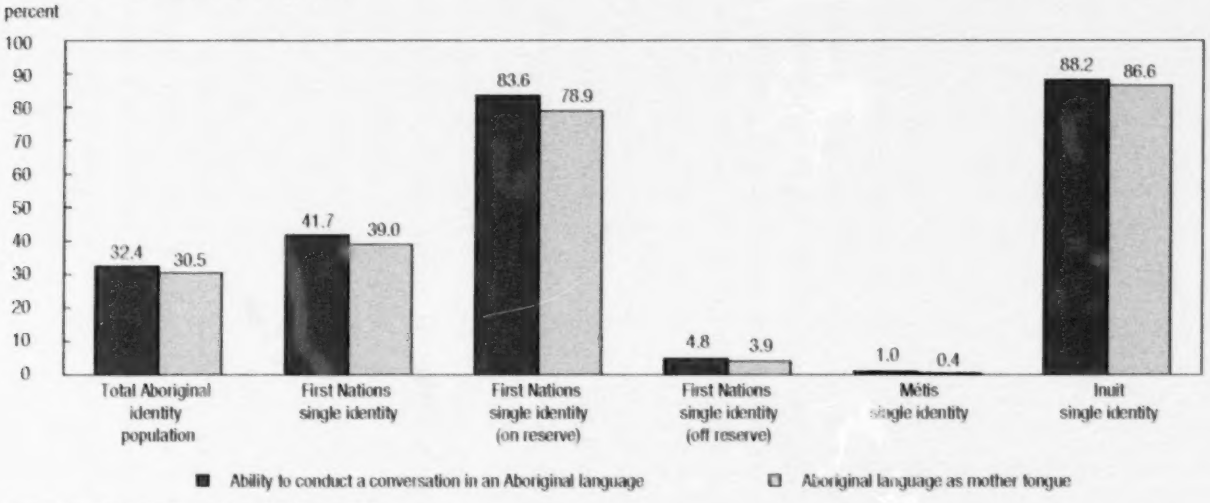
Majority of Inuit and on-reserve First Nations people speak an Aboriginal language

- Almost nine in ten Inuit reported an Aboriginal mother tongue (87%) and the ability to converse in an Aboriginal language (88%). Inuktitut was the Aboriginal language most commonly spoken by Inuit.

- Among First Nations people living on a reserve, 79% reported an Aboriginal mother tongue and 84% the ability to conduct a conversation in an Aboriginal language, which suggests acquisition of an Aboriginal language as a second language. The Aboriginal languages most commonly spoken by First Nations people were Cree languages, Innu/Montagnais, and Atikamekw.

- Based on results of the Aboriginal Peoples Survey,[4] 43% of off-reserve First Nations people, 35% of Métis and 93% of Inuit aged 6 and older reported that speaking and understanding an Aboriginal language was important to them.

Chart 1
Ability to converse in an Aboriginal language and Aboriginal language as mother tongue, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Quebec, 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

Postsecondary qualifications vary by Aboriginal group

- In 2011, 53% of Aboriginal people aged 25 to 64 in Quebec had a certificate, diploma or degree from a trade school, college or university: 52% of First Nations people, 59% of Métis and 27% of Inuit. The comparable percentage for their non-Aboriginal counterparts was 66%.

- Among those with postsecondary credentials, First Nations people, Métis and Inuit were more likely than non-Aboriginal graduates to have completed programs below the bachelor's level (trades or college programs).

- There was also a difference in the proportion of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people with "no certificate, diploma or degree". In 2011, 31% of First Nations people (47% of those living on a reserve and 21% for the off-reserve population) aged 25 to 64, 23% of Métis and 56% of Inuit did not have a certificate, diploma or degree. The corresponding percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 15%.

4. The target population of the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) excluded people living on Indian reserves and settlements in the provinces and in certain First Nations communities in the territories.

Table 3
Highest level of educational attainment of population aged 25 to 64, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Quebec, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity			Métis single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
		Total	On reserve	Off reserve			
	percent						
No certificate, diploma or degree	29.5	31.3	46.5	20.9	23.1	55.8	14.5
High school diploma or equivalent	17.1	16.8	11.2	20.8	17.6	17.0	19.6
Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree	53.4	51.8	42.4	58.3	59.2	27.2	65.9
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	24.0	22.6	20.3	24.2	27.2	16.8	18.8
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	15.9	16.2	13.4	18.2	17.0	6.2	18.4
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level[1]	3.9	4.1	3.5	4.5	4.0	1.6	5.2
University certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	9.6	8.9	5.2	11.5	11.1	2.5	23.5

1. Comparisons with other data sources suggest that the category "University certificate or diploma below bachelor level" was overreported in the National Household Survey (NHS). The results for this category should be interpreted with caution. For more information on concepts and data quality, refer to the NHS reference guides and *Education Reference Guide* on the Statistics Canada website.

Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

Employment rates and median total income increase with education

- In 2011, the employment rates of First Nations people, Métis and Inuit aged 25 to 64 in Quebec who did not have a certificate, diploma or degree were 43.1%, 43.9% and 52.6% respectively. Employment rates were higher for those with further education. For example, among those with postsecondary credentials, the employment rate of First Nations people and Métis was 74.3%, while that of Inuit was 76.0%.

Table 4
Employment rate of population aged 25 to 64, by highest level of educational attainment, selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Quebec, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity			Métis single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
		Total	On reserve	Off reserve			
	employment rate (percent)						
Total	**64.1**	**63.0**	**55.1**	**68.3**	**65.5**	**62.1**	**74.6**
No certificate, diploma or degree	44.8	43.1	41.1	46.2	43.9	52.6	54.2
High school diploma or equivalent	64.7	64.9	57.0	67.8	64.3	70.0	69.2
Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree	74.6	74.3	70.0	76.5	74.3	76.0	80.7

Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

- Median total income[5] was also higher for those with higher education levels. Among First Nations people aged 25 to 64, median total income (rounded to the nearest $1,000) ranged from $17,000 for those with no certificate, diploma or degree to $35,000 for those with postsecondary credentials. The range for Métis was from $15,000 to $37,000, and for Inuit, from $23,000 to $40,000.

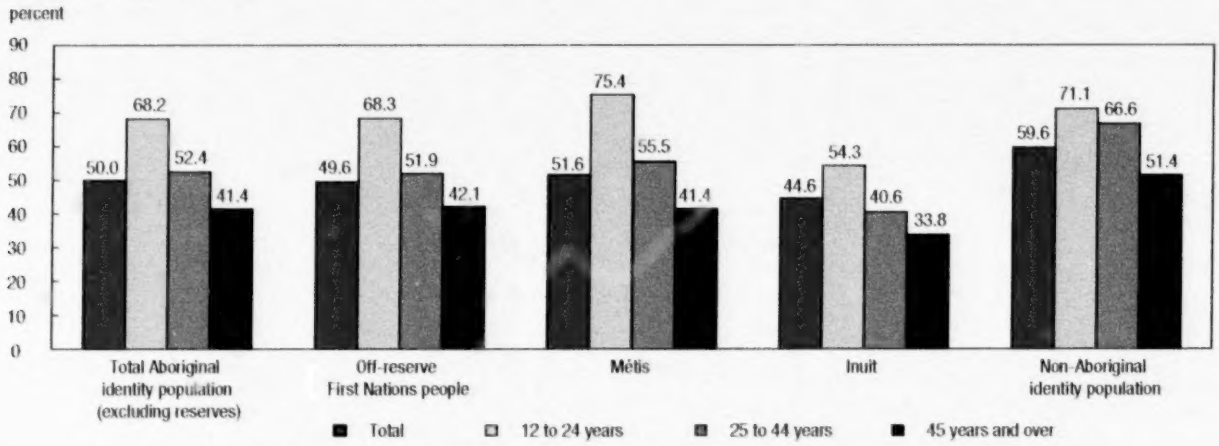
Half rated their health as excellent or very good

- Based on results of the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 50% of the Aboriginal population aged 12 and older in Quebec rated their health as excellent or very good in 2012: 50% of First Nations people living off reserve, 52% of Métis, and 45% of Inuit.

- The majority of off-reserve First Nations people (66%) and Métis (71%) aged 18 and older reported excellent or very good mental health.[6] The corresponding percentage for Inuit was 46%.

5. Total income includes income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income. The calculation includes population with income and without income (with an income of zero).
6. Questions on self-rated mental health were only asked of respondents who were providing answers to the survey directly, on their own behalf (i.e., data are not available when questionnaires were completed by proxy interview).

Chart 2
Excellent or very good self-rated overall health of population aged 12 and over, by selected Aboriginal identity group and age group, Quebec, 2012



Sources: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012; and Canadian Community Health Survey, 2012.

- Inuit in all age groups reported poorer overall health and mental health than off-reserve First Nations people, Métis, and non-Aboriginal people.[7]

- Two-thirds of off-reserve First Nations people (65%) aged 12 and older reported that they had been diagnosed with at least one chronic condition as did 61% of Métis and 34% of Inuit. The corresponding percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 52%.

- Among off-reserve First Nations people, Métis and Inuit, commonly reported conditions included high blood pressure (19%, 19% and 8%, respectively), asthma (16%, 16% and 5%[E]) and arthritis excluding fibromyalgia (16%, 14%, and 4%[E]). In addition, 12% of off-reserve First Nations people, 11% of Métis and 4%[E] of Inuit reported an anxiety disorder and 11%[E] of First Nations people living off reserve, 11% of Métis and 5%[E] of Inuit reported being diagnosed with a mood disorder. A learning disability was reported by 9% of off-reserve First Nations people, 11% of Métis and 9%[E] of Inuit.

Table 5
Excellent or very good self-rated mental health of population aged 18 and over, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Quebec, 2012

	Total Aboriginal identity population (excluding reserves)	Off-reserve First Nations people	Métis	Inuit	Non-Aboriginal identity population
			percent		
Total	**67.1**	**65.6**	**71.4**	**46.1**	**74.4**
18 to 24	70.2	71.2	85.7	37.1	79.1
25 to 44	64.9	62.6	68.0	50.4	76.0
45 and over	68.0	66.7	71.5	47.3	72.4

Sources: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012; and Canadian Community Health Survey, 2012.

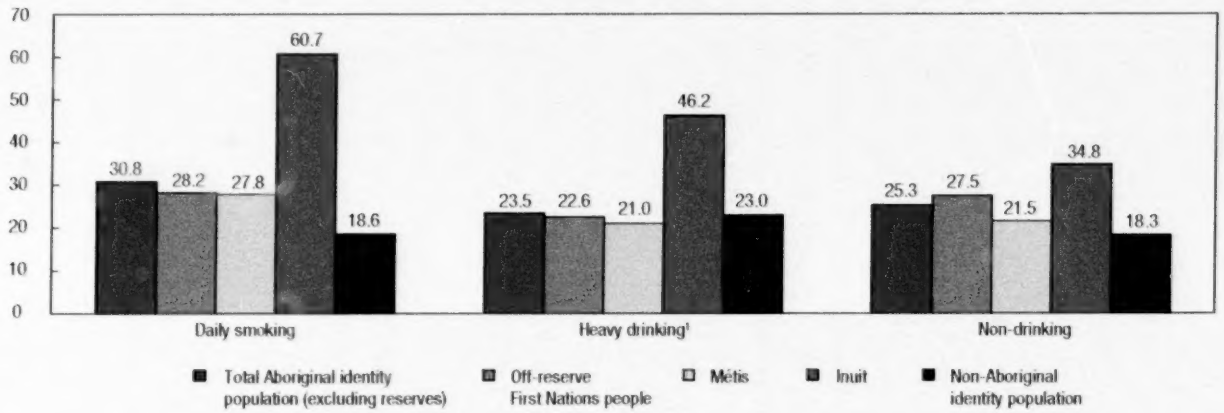
Six in ten Inuit smoked daily

- In 2012, 28% of off-reserve First Nations people and Métis aged 12 and older reported that they smoked daily, as did 61% of Inuit. The comparable percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 19%.

- Over half of Inuit in all age groups in Table 6 reported that they smoked daily, with rates ranging from 55% for those aged 45 and older to 68% for 25- to 44-year-olds.

7. Health data for the non-Aboriginal population were drawn from the 2012 Canadian Community Health Survey.

Chart 3
Selected health behaviours of population aged 12 and over, by selected Aboriginal identity group, Quebec, 2012



1. Heavy drinking refers to the consumption of five or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the 12 months preceding the survey.
Sources: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012; and Canadian Community Health Survey, 2012.

- For those 12 and older, the rate of heavy drinking (five or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the 12 months preceding the survey) was 23% for off-reserve First Nations people, 21% for Métis, and 46% for Inuit, compared with 23% for non-Aboriginal people. For both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations, those aged 45 and older were less likely than those in the younger age groups to report heavy drinking.

- At the same time, 28% of off-reserve First Nations people and 35% of Inuit were non-drinkers (consumed no alcohol in the 12 months preceding the survey), compared with 18% of the non-Aboriginal population. The percentage for Métis was 22%. At ages 12 to 24, almost half (46%) of Inuit were non-drinkers. The corresponding percentage for their non-Aboriginal peers was 26% while that for off-reserve First Nations people and Métis in this age group was just over 30%.

Table 6
Selected health behaviours of population aged 12 and over, by selected Aboriginal identity group and area of residence, Quebec, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population (excluding reserves)	Off-reserve First Nations people	Métis	Inuit	Non-Aboriginal identity population
	percent				
12 to 24					
Daily smoking	25.1	17.0[E]	16.8[E]	58.1	14.2
Heavy drinking[1]	31.9	27.9[E]	31.5[E]	46.3	38.2
Non-drinking	34.3	31.5	31.3	46.3	26.1
25 to 44					
Daily smoking	40.1	41.0	34.7	68.4	20.7
Heavy drinking	30.3	26.6[E]	30.1	55.1	29.3
Non-drinking	14.3	17.0	12.5[E]	18.1	14.3
45 and over					
Daily smoking	27.0	23.7	27.2	55.2	18.7
Heavy drinking	15.4[E]	17.7[E]	11.5[E]	30.7[E]	14.3
Non-drinking	28.9	32.9	23.9	38.2	18.0

[E] use with caution
1. Heavy drinking refers to the consumption of five or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the 12 months preceding the survey.
Sources: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012; and Canadian Community Health Survey, 2012.